

SS SCS SB 489 & 637 -- WEAPONS

SPONSOR: Munzlinger (Franz)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 10 to 3.

Currently, a person commits a class A misdemeanor if he or she possesses, manufactures, transports, repairs, or sells a switchblade knife. This substitute limits the prohibition to when the activities involving a switchblade knife violate federal law and makes the crime a class C felony.

A person can receive a concealed carry endorsement without meeting the current requirements if he or she submits a copy of a certificate of firearms safety training course completion that was issued on or before August 27, 2011, if it met the requirements that were in effect on the date it was issued.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that a law last year inadvertently made it illegal to own switchblade knives in the state. The bill allows a person to own them if in doing so, he or she is not in violation of federal law. It allows those who completed their concealed carry endorsement training prior to the passage of last year's revised training requirement to obtain their endorsement without meeting the new requirements. These changes are necessary to ensure that the actual intent of last year's changes are clear and to give guidance to county sheriffs as to what training is required to obtain a concealed carry endorsement.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Munzlinger; National Rifle Association of America; and Missourians for Personal Safety.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.